Remarks

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

Amendments to the Specificiation

Applicant has amended the abstract to comply with the 150 word limit of 37 CFR §1.72(b). No new matter has been added. A clean copy of the abstract is attached on a separate sheet in compliance with 37 CFR §1.72(b).

Applicant has amended the specification to correct some informalities as well as typographical and grammatical errors. Applicant has changed a few reference numbers in the specification to correspond with the drawings. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Claims

Original claims 1,3,10–13, 21, and 23 have been amended. Claims 2, 4–9, 14–20, and 22 have been maintained in their original form. No claims have been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,745,692 to Lohmann, II et. al ("Lohmann").

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that "Lohmann fails to disclose the expert system and rules table to the level of detail recited in [] claim [11]." Applicant submits that Lohmann fails to teach the following limitation recited in claim 10:

". . . an expert system application coupled to each of said at least one hardware-based switch component and said at least one software-based switch component, said expert system application adapted for receiving operational information from said at least one hardware-based component and said at least one software-based component, issuing, based upon said received operational information, a selected one of a plurality of instructions . . ."

Therefore, the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is not supported by the Lohmann reference and should be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 21, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,041,325 to Shah et. al ("Shah") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,812,977 to Douglas ("Douglas").

With respect to claim 1, applicant agrees with the Examiner that "the combination of Shah in view of Douglas fails to disclose a recognition audible input table to the level of detail recited . . ." Claim 1 requires:

". . . a recognizable audible input table coupled to said switch reprovisioning system and said user interface, said recognizable audible input table maintaining a plurality of recognizable reprovisioning instructions suitable for use by said switch reprovisioning system to modify said interaction framework used by said call processing application."

Thus, for this mutually exclusive reason, a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is not applicable to claim 1 in light of the prior art of record.

With respect to claim 2, claim 2 is dependent on claim 1. Thus, for this mutually exclusive reason, a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is not applicable to claim 2 in light of the prior art of record.

With respect to claim 21, applicant agrees with the Examiner that "the combination of Shah in view of Douglas fails to disclose a recognition audible input table to the level of detail recited. . ." Claim 21 requires:

"A method for reprovisioning a switch, comprising the steps of:

detecting an audible sound;

determining if said audible sound is an audibilized command containing a reprovisioning instruction by comparing said audible sound to a recognizable audible input table maintaining a plurality of recognizable reprovisioning instructions; and

if said audible sound is an audibilized command containing a reprovisioning instruction found in said recognizable audible input table, reprovisioning said switch in accordance with said reprovisioning instruction."

Thus, for this mutually exclusive reason, a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is not applicable to claim 21 in light of the prior art of record.

<u>With respect to claim 22</u>, claim 22 is dependent on claim 21. Thus, for this mutually exclusive reason, a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is not applicable to claim 22 in light of the prior art of record.

Objected Claims

Claims 3–9, 11–20, and 23 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicant has rewritten claims 3, 11–13, and 23 in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, it is submitted that claims 3, 11–13, and 23 are now in allowable form.

Claims 4–9 depend on or further limit claim 3, or other intervening claims that depend on claim 3, and are therefore allowable. Similarly claims 14–20 depend on or further limit claim 13, or other intervening claims that depend on claim 13, and are therefore allowable.

Conclusion

It is clear from all of the foregoing that independent claims 1, 3, 10–13, 21, and 23 are in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 2, 4–9, 14–20, and 22 depend from and further limit independent claims 1, 3, 10–13, and 21 and therefore are allowable as well.

An early formal notice of allowance of claims 1–23 is requested. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

David M. O'Dell
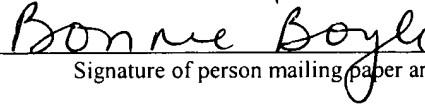Registration No. 42,044

Dated: 6-21-04

HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP
901 Main Street, Suite 3100
Dallas, Texas 75202-3789
Telephone: 972-739-8635
Facsimile: 972-692-9118

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK HAVING A SWITCH EQUIPPED WITH AN IVR PROVISIONING/MONITORING SYSTEM

Abstract of the Disclosure

A switching device having an IVR provisioning/monitoring system and an associated method to reprovision and/or monitor a switch. Audible sounds are detected and analyzed to determine whether they are audibilized commands containing reprovisioning instructions. If so, the switch is reprovisioned in accordance with the instruction. To determine whether the detected audible sound is an audibilized command, the audible sound is digitized for comparison with plural recognizable commands. If the digitized audible sound matches a recognized command, then the corresponding reprovisioning instruction is executed. Prior to the reprovisioning analysis, the detected audible sounds are analyzed to determine whether they are an authorization code. If so, subsequent audible sounds are analyzed to determine whether they contain reprovisioning instructions. The system may be operated in a monitoring mode where events are propogated to an expert system module for determining whether an alert or notification should be issued in response to the event.